

## **BLISTER OPENERS**

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/452,964, filed March 10, 2003.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Blister packaging is commonly used for pharmaceuticals and other products. Pills or other small products are deposited in individual blisters on sheets of material. Each sheet of blisters has a variable number and arrangement of blisters, but each sheet generally has blisters formed in rows or other geometric patterns. After the pills or other products are deposited in the blisters, a sheet of covering material is applied over the entirety of the blister package and the cover material is sealed to the blister card. The cover material is generally a foil covered lid stock. The cover material seals the pills or other products into the blister and prevents air from interacting with them.

In order to open the blister package, a user must break the cover material seal. The user must push the product through the cover material or break the cover material and peel it off of the blister. Because many pharmaceuticals are packaged in blister packaging, the packages are often child resistant to prevent children from harming themselves by taking medication that is not theirs or that is toxic.

Current child safe blister packaging inherently is generally known to be difficult to open. Child resistant lidding, such as reinforced foil stock, paper, or plastic laminate, is difficult for the average adult to open. It is especially difficult for seniors with declining manual dexterity and those who are physically impaired to access many important medications. Current child safe blister packages cause much frustration because of the difficulty of opening individual blisters.